

division of community services



Mitt Romney, Governor
Kerry Healey, Lieutenant Governor
Jane Wallis Gumble, Director

Massachusetts
Department of Housing &
Community Development
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300
Boston, MA 02114

(617)573-1100
<http://www.mass.gov/dhcd>

Economic Development Relocation Program

Fact Sheet

Under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 79A, the Department of Housing and Community Development's (DHCD) Bureau of Relocation (BOR) is responsible for providing advice, assistance and approvals for and to public agencies that force businesses and individuals to move as a result of real estate acquisitions or eminent domain takings. In general, the BOR acts as the central clearinghouse on state and local projects that cause displacement.

How it works

Displacing agencies are charged with providing relocation services to businesses and residential occupants who are displaced as the result of state-funded projects. Displacing agencies must have adequate in-house or contracted personnel to provide the necessary relocation assistance to displaced occupants. The BOR is charged with administrative oversight of the implementation of the local relocation process.

The BOR ensures that displacing agencies provide: technical assistance to displacing in preparing local relocation plans and issuing necessary notices and forms to displaced occupants, all requisite services and payments to displaced occupants in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and technical assistance to displaced occupants including explaining the availability of advisory services and payments under Chapter 79A. The BOR also conducts administrative hearings under M.G.L. Chapter 30A to resolve disputes between displacing agencies and displaced occupants.

Activities resulting in displacement and relocation of occupants include, but are not limited to:

- Court construction and expansion

(continued)

- Urban renewal
- School construction and expansion
- Public parking facilities
- Transportation improvements and mass transit projects
- Public parks and open space initiatives
- Hazard mitigation projects, watershed and environmental protection initiatives
- Expansion of higher educational facilities
- Fire and police construction and expansion
- Library construction and expansion
- Housing initiatives
- Miscellaneous public facilities (i.e., skating rinks, convention center, etc.)

**Who is
eligible**

Any resident or business who has been displaced by a state assisted project.

**For more
information**

Please contact DHCD's Division of Community Services at (617) 573-1400.